



HF Happenings



No 494

March 2012

South African Radio League 1925 - 2011 Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
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Republic of South Sudan Assigned Prefix

After a wait of more than seven months after being accepted as a member of the United Nations, the Republic of South Sudan received its prefix block from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU): Z8A - Z8Z. On 14 July 2011, after South Sudan's admittance to the UN, the new country became a DXCC entity by way of Section II, 1(a) of the DXCC rules.

Malyj Vysotskij Island (MVI), R1M

According to the Finnish Ministry of Transportation and Communication, relevant Finnish and Russian authorities through ratification have finalised the Saimaa Canal Treaty between Finland and Russia. The Treaty has entered into effect with a date of 17 February 2012.

Malyj Vysotskij Island (MVI), R1M, is no longer included in the Treaty. Thus, MVI will be deleted from the DXCC list as of 17 February 2012, and added to the Deleted Entities List.

This change will affect the Honour Roll numbers as follows:

#1 Honour roll will drop to 340 (down from 341) and the entry level Honour Roll number will drop to 331 (down from 332). Thanks Tjerk, ZS6P.

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reported on 23 February, "According to the Finnish Ministry of Transportation and Communication, the Saimaa Canal Treaty between Finland and Russia has been finalized by relevant Finnish and Russian authorities through ratification.

The Treaty has entered into effect with a date of 17 February 2012. Malyj Vysotskij Island (MVI), R1M, is no longer included in the Treaty. Thus, MVI will be deleted from the DXCC list as of 17 February 2012, and added to the Deleted Entities List.

Administratively at HQ, we will not make the necessary changes to the DXCC system until after the final data processing for 2011 is complete - this includes the tables shown in Logbook of The World. (The 2011 DXCC Annual and Honour Roll listings will contain M-V Island as it stood in 2011, a current entity). This change will affect the Honour Roll numbers as follows:

#1 Honour roll will drop to 340 (down from 341), and

The entry level Honour Roll number will drop to 331 (down from 332)

DXCC members will see their current entity totals drop by one on their Mixed awards, and on the bands and modes where MVI credit is given. They will also see their DXCC Challenge totals drop commensurately."

SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





The annual SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest will be on the air this afternoon from 12:00 - 14:00 UTC or 14:00 to 16:00 CAT. It is a SSB only contest on 40 metres. There are four classes of participation - Class A: Single Op Stationary Mobile; Class B: Single Op Portable; Class C: Multi-Op Portable and Class D: Single Op Base Station.

The exchange for Class A is a RS report and a serial no starting with 201; for Class B a RS report and a serial no starting with 401, for Class C a RS report and a serial no starting with 601 and for Class D a RS report and a serial no starting with 801. Non-participants will give a RS report and a serial no starting with 001. The score calculation is available in the rules

Logs must be submitted by 11 March 2012 and can be sent by e-mail to contest@pears.ham-radio-op.net, paper logs can be sent to Hamnet Eastern Cape, Al Akers, ZS2U, 53 Clarence Street, Westering, Port Elizabeth 6025.

SARL March Madness YL Sprint

This is a fun activity to celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March. However, as it is not a public holiday, the Sprint is run on the Saturday nearest the date. This year it will be Saturday 10 March from 09:00 to 10:00 UTC or 11:00 to 12:00 CAT.

It is a phone sprint on the 40 metre band [7 060 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz] and the exchange is a RS report and YL or OM.

Contacts between YL stations are worth 5 points. Contacts between YL and OM stations are worth 3 points and contacts between OM stations are worth 1 point.

Log sheets must be submitted by 17 March using e-mail to zs4bfn@netactive.co.za or by post to the Bloemfontein RAC, Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324.

Parachute Mobile

Parachute Mobile www.parachutemobile.org will be operating in conjunction with Radiofest 2012 on Saturday 3 March 2012. Radiofest 2012 is the ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention. See <http://www.radiofest.org/index.php?page=pages&id=9> for times and frequencies. Current plans are for simplex voice communications on 146,430 MHz. Live ATV video will be broadcast from a jumper-cam and relayed to a display at RADIOFEST.

I do not think I will try this!

Sketch, simulate and share schematics

CircuitLab lets you rapidly test circuit ideas before bread boarding. In addition, when they host your circuit, they provide you with a convenient image and link that you can use to share your circuit on online forums or your own website, so you can contribute to or get help from the hobbyist community. Visit <https://www.circuitlab.com/>

March 2012

3 and 4 – ARRL International DX SSB Contest

4 – SARL Hamnet 40 metre Simulated Emergency Contest

7 to 11 – Polokwane Show, Polokwane

8 – International Women's Day

10 – SARL March YL Sprint

10 and 11 – RSGB Commonwealth Contest

17 – St Patricks Day

17 and 18 – SARL VHF/UHF Contest

19 to 25 – National Water Week

21 – Human Rights Day

22 to 24 – Green Kalahari Canoe Marathon at Augrabies

23 – World Meteorological Day; Coastal schools close

23 to 25 – Cape Getaway Show at Lourensford Wine Estate

24 and 25 – CQ WW WPX SSB Contest

28 – SARL 80 metre Club Contest, SSB

30 – Inland schools close





Pirate Alert

YI1IRQ is not an active call sign. Any use of this call sign is a pirate. Any QSL sent to YI1IRQ will be returned unanswered.



Johan, ZS1A, reports: "ZD9GI went QRT on 15 September 2011. There is a pirate operating now with that call. Please note info on QRZ.com and please do not send QSL card if after that date."

Also, John, ZS1LF/ZD9GI, reports [edited]: "I don't operate CW, but I see there has been a Pirate using the ZD9GI call sign, and he was busy on 40 m. The ZD9GI Gough Island (WAP ZAF-05) is no longer operational as I am QRT as of the 15th September 2011. Any new contacts will be a pirate operating and QSL cards will not be honoured. I have updated my QRZ page as well putting the alert on it. It was ON5NT that warned me about the pirate. Actually, there are no Hams on Gough Island at this time; it will take a few years for one to go down again."

African DX

Kenya, 5Z. Look for Sig, NV7E, to be active as 5Z4EE from Nairobi, Kenya (WW Loc KI88js) during the ARRL DX SSB Contest (3 - 4 March 2012) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL 5Z4EE direct (QRZ.com) or via NV7E direct or Bureau, NOT the Kenya QSL Bureau.

Democratic Republic of Congo, 9Q. Barney, ZS4U / ZS6TQ, will be active as 9Q6/ZS4U from the Democratic Republic of Congo (Grid Loc. KI16) between 14 March and 8 April 2012. He will be active on 40 - 6 m CW, SSB and PSK, between 13:00 - 15:00 UTC daily, as work permits. QSL via K3IRV, direct preferred, Bureau ok.

Senegal, 6V. Operators Mike, RA9FW, and Igor, UA9CDC, will be active as 6V7Z from "Le Calao Resort" between 16 and 28 March. Their activities will include the Russian DX Contest (17 and 18 March) and the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (24 and 25 March) as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via RA9FW, direct or by the Bureau.

Lesotho, 7P8. Gert, ZS6AYU, will once again be active as 7P8GF from Roma, Lesotho, on 8 - 13 March 2012. Look for him to be active on 40 to 10 metres, CW only, with 100 W and a vertical. QSL via ZS6AYU, direct or by the SARL Bureau.

Donovan, ZS2DL, has finalized his team of operators, but has changed the dates for his DXpedition to Lesotho. Due to the "Roof of Africa Rally" (see <http://www.roofofafrica.org.ls>) taking place and all accommodation being taken for their original dates (9 to 19 November), the dates have been changed to arriving in Lesotho on 21 November and leaving 4 December. Operations will possibly take place between 22 November and 3 December. Naturally, this means they will be an entry in the CQ WW DX CW Contest on 24 and 25 November.

The call sign will 7P8D. Operators mentioned are Donovan, ZS2DL (CW), Andrew, V51YJ (CW), Mitko, LZ1UQ (CW), Jo, DJ3CQ (CW), Chris, DL2MDU (CW and RTTY), Rhy, ZS1TT (SSB and RTTY), Frosty, K5LBU, Mitch, ZS2DK (SSB and RTTY) and Roger, ZS6RJ (CW and RTTY).

Activity will be on 160 - 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY, with a minimum of three stations (possibly 5 stations) on the air 24/7. Suggested CW frequencies (listening up) are 3 504, 7 024, 10 103, 14 020, 18 078, 21 020, 24 900 and 28 020 kHz.

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





QSL direct via Lesotho DXpedition 2012, PO Box 29169, Sunridge Park, 6008, South Africa (w/2 USDs - Please no IRC as it is difficult to convert them at the post office). A OQRS system (PayPal) will also be implemented just before the expedition. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW within 12 months after the DXpedition has ended.

For more details, visit <http://www.zs2dl.co.za/7P8D.html>

Ghana, 9G. Look for 9G1AA to be active again from the Dormaa Hospital in Dormaa-Ahenkro between February 28th and about March 16th. A few different sources are reporting that Rob, PA3DEW and Vincent, PA3FQX are the operators. Activity is usually and mainly on 20 and 15 metres SSB. QSL via PA3ERA, direct or by the Bureau. Hopefully, more details will be forthcoming. To see past activities from 9G1AA, go to the "Dutch Amateurs Going On Expedition" (DAGOE) Web page at <http://www.dagoe.com/9g1aa2.htm>

The Gambia, C5. Willy, ON4AVT, will be active as C5AVT from near Banjul between 28 February and 20 March. Activity will be QRP and mostly on 15 metres PSK31 using a FT-817 and a Buddipole. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau.

Namibia, V5. Operators David, GI4FUM and XYL Gillian, GI8MIV, along with Richard, GI4DOH, Kalle, DM3BJ, and Andre, V51B, will be active from Oranjemund for the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (24 and 25 March) as a Multi-Op entry. Call sign has not been announced yet. The week before the contest operators will be active on the HF bands using CW, RTTY and PSK31. Skeds may be requested via GI4FUM@arrl.net. QSLs for this operation should go via David, GI4FUM (QTHR).

Burkina Faso, XT. A group of Japanese operators will be active from Ouagadougou between 21 and 28 March. Operators mentioned are Yukinori, JA3VWT (XT2VWT), Kitai, JA3IVU (XT2IVU), Junichi, JH3AEF (XT2AEF), Shusuke, JO3VVO (XT2VVO) and possibly other JA operators. Activity will be on 80 - 10 metres using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via their home call signs, direct or by the Bureau. There was some indication that the XT2CEFIG club station may also be activated.

Democratic Republic Of Congo, 9Q. On 27 January the first license examination took place at the clubhouse of the "Amateur Radio Association of the Congo" (ARAC) in Kinshasa. With the assistance of Mr. Henri and support from the distance by Henk, ON4AHF; Pascal, 9Q1PM, has prepared the candidates so excellent that all 21 examinees passed the exam with flying colours (5x 100%)!

The exam was taken by Mr. Mpatamana from the "Ministere des Nouvelles Technologies de Postes Communication" under supervision of Pascal, ON4CFC. The club has big plans and wants to show up on the air as 9Q0AR regularly now. Congratulations on passing the license exam, welcome to the global community of radio amateurs and enjoy our common hobby!

http://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=931:amateur-radio-exams-in-dr-congo&catid=45:stars&Itemid=97

African Islands

St. Helena, ZD7. Nigel, G3TXF, who was active as ZD8XF from Ascension Island (AF-003) this past week, will be active as ZD7XF from St. Helena (AF-022) between 29 February and 13 March. Activity will be mainly focused on 160 and 80 metres CW, with an entry in the RSGB's





Commonwealth Contest [BERU] (10 and 11 March). QSLs via G3TXF. For more info and updates, go to <http://www.g3txf.com/dxtrip/ZD8-ZD7-Feb-12/ZD8-ZD7.html>

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 27 February to 5 March 2012.

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 2 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 3 March 2012

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 2 March

Mode: (see rules)

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 4 March 2012

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

ARRL International DX SSB Contest

00:00 UTC 3 March to 24:00 UTC 4 March

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band; Single Op Unlimited - low or high; Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Two; Multi-Multi

Max power: HP: 1500 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: W/VE: RS and state or province; non-W/VE: RS and power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 3 points per QSO

Multipliers: W/VE: Each DXCC country once per band; Non-W/VE: Each state, District of Columbia, VE province/territory once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 3 April 2012

Have YOU done anything to promote Amateur Radio this month?





E-mail logs to: DXPhone@arrl.org

Mail logs to: ARRL Intl DX Contest, Phone, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

Wake-Up! QRP Sprint

06:00 - 06:29 UTC, 06:30 - 06:59 UTC, 07:00 - 07:29 UTC and 07:30 - 08:00 UTC 3 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 40, 20 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, serial no and suffix of previous QSO ("QRP" for 1st QSO)

Work stations: Once per band per period

QSO Points: 1 point per km

Multipliers: 1 point per new station worked on each band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total multiplier points

Submit logs by: 12 March 2012

E-mail logs to: ru-grp-club@mail.ru

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://grp.ru/contest/wakeup/333-wakeup-eng>

Open Ukraine RTTY Championship

20:00 - 21:59 UTC (Low Band) and 22:00 - 23:59 UTC 3 March (Low Band) and 08:00 - 11:59 UTC 4 March (High Band)

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op Multi-Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op Multi-Band

Exchange: 2-letter regional abbreviation (state, province or canton, etc.) and serial no (restart serial no. for high band)

Work stations: Once per band per period

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO; 10 points per new region once per band per period

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total points

Submit logs by: 5 April 2012

E-mail logs to: krs@model.poltava.ua

Mail logs to: George Ignatov, UT1HT, PO Box 87, Kremenchug-21 39621, Ukraine

Find rules at: <http://uarl.com.ua/openrtty/2012/rtty2012e.txt>

DARC 10-Metre Digital Contest

11:00 - 17:00 UTC 4 March

Mode: RTTY, Amtor, Clover, PSK31, Pactor

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: Single Op; SWL

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each WAE/DCXX area; Each W/VE call area

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 19 March 2012

E-mail logs to: do1npf@darc.de

Mail logs to: Peter Frank, DO1NPF, Postfach 11 19, 90515 Altdorf, Germany

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





Find rules at:

<http://www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport/bild-und-schrift-wettbewerbe/corona-maerz/teilnahmebedingungen/>

SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest

12:00 - 14:00 UTC 4 March

Mode: SSB

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: A: Single Op Stationary Mobile; B: Single Op Portable; C: Multi-Op Portable; D: Single Op Base Station

Exchange: Class A: RS and serial no starting with 201; Class B: RS and serial no starting with 401; Class C: RS and serial no starting with 601; Class D: RS and serial no starting with 801;

Non-participants: RS and serial no starting with 001)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 11 March 2012

E-mail logs to: contest@pears.ham-radio-op.net

Mail logs to: Hamnet Eastern Cape, Al Akers, ZS2U, 53 Clarence Street, Westering, Port Elizabeth 6025, South Africa

Find rules at:

http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/SARL_2012_Contest_Manual_issue_10.pdf

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data

20:00 - 21:30 UTC 5 March

Mode: RTTY, PSK

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 12 March 2012

Upload log at: <http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml>

Next Week's Contests

ARS Spartan Sprint, 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 6 March

AGCW YL-CW Party, 19:00 - 21:00 UTC 6 March

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 7 March

AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest, 23:00 UTC 7 March to 23:00 UTC 8 March and 23:00 UTC 10 March to 23:00 UTC 11 March

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 9 March

RSGB Commonwealth Contest, 10:00 UTC 10 March to 10:00 UTC 11 March

SARL March Madness YL Sprint, 09:00 - 10:00 UTC 10 March

AGCW QRP Contest, 14:00 - 20:00 UTC 10 March

QRP ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint, 15:00 - 18:00 UTC 10 March

EA PSK63 Contest, 16:00 UTC 10 March to 16:00 UTC 11 March

Idaho QSO Party, 19:00 UTC 10 March to 19:00 UTC 11 March

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





SKCC Weekend Sprint, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 11 March
 North American Sprint, RTTY, 00:00 - 04:00 UTC 11 March
 UBA Spring Contest, CW, 07:00 - 11:00 UTC 11 March
 NSARA SSB Contest, 11:00 - 15:00 UTC and 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 11 March
 Wisconsin QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 11 March to 01:00 UTC 12 March
 NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint, 18:00 - 20:00 UTC 12 March

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 13 February 2012.

1678 - Birth of Antonio Vivaldi (4 Mar)
 1807 - Birth of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (27 Feb)
 1847 - Birth of Alexander Graham Bell (3 Mar)
 1904 - Birth of Dr Seuss (2 Mar)
 1931 - Birth of Mikhail Gorbachev (2 Mar)
 1932 - Birth of Elizabeth Taylor (27 Feb); Miriam Makeba (4 Mar)
 1962 - Birth of Jon Bon Jovi (2 Mar)
 1981 - Birth of Josh Grobin (27 Feb)

1066 - Westminster Abbey opens (28 Feb)
 1759 - Pope Clement XIII allows the Bible to be translated into various languages (28 Feb)
 1784 - John Wesley charts the Methodist Church (28 Feb)
 1881 - Battle of Amajuba, British forces under General Colley
 1900 - Boer General Cronje surrenders to the British at Pardenebrg (27 Feb); General Buller's troops relieve Ladysmith, Natal (28 Feb)

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

SARL News

| Time (UTC / CAT) | Freq (kHz) | From | Target Area | Language |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 06:15 / 08:15 * | 7 066 / 7 098 | From Pretoria / | Southern Africa | Afrikaans |
| 06:30 / 08:30 * | 7 066 / 7 098 | Port Elizabeth | Southern Africa | English |

Various 2 metre and 70 cm repeaters and Echolink country wide

Amateur Radio Today

| Time (UTC / CAT) | Freq (kHz) | From | Target Area | Language |
|------------------|---|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| 08:00 - 09:00 / | 7 082 | From Durban | Southern Africa | English |
| 10:00 - 11:00 * | Various 2 metre and 70 cm repeaters and Echolink country wide | | | |

Amateur Radio Today shortwave broadcast information

| Time (UTC / CAT) | Freq (kHz) | Tx kW | Target Area | Language |
|------------------|------------|-------|-----------------|----------|
| 08:00 - 09:00 / | 7 205 | 100 | Southern Africa | English |
| 10:00 - 11:00 * | 17 760 | 250 | East Africa | English |
| 17:30 - 18:30 / | 4 895 | 100 | Southern Africa | English |
| 19:30 - 20:30 ** | | | | |

Have **YOU** done anything to promote **Amateur Radio** this month?





* Sunday ** Monday

Amateurradio in Aksie

| Dorp | Frekwensie | Tyd en dekking |
|--------------|-------------|---|
| Bloemfontein | 145,600 MHz | Maandagaande 20:30 vanaf die Naval Hill herhaler |
| Kaap | 145,700 MHz | Maandagaande 20:30 in die Boland |
| Pretoria | 145,750 MHz | Woensdagaand net na die ZS6MRK bulletin |
| Pretoria HF | 3 680 kHz | Woensdagaand net na die ZS6MRK bulletin |
| Rustenburg | 145,500 MHz | Maandagaande 20:30 |
| Sasolburg | 145,600 MHz | Maandagaande 20:00 dekking in die hele Vaaldriehoek |

